

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

SKETCHES

OF

LEGISLATORS

AND

STATE OFFICERS

1876-1878.

BY JOHN CARDWELL.

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1876.

FORTY-NINTH DISTRICT.

Counties.—Grayson and Collin.

REPRESENTATIVE R. D. ALLISON is a native of North Carolina ; grew up and was educated in Tennessee, and has now reached his sixty-sixth year ; has raised up children to maturity, and, with three score and ten years about to shadow his brow, is as full of vigorous manhood as ordinary men at half his age. He moved to Texas in 1866, and settled at McKinney, in Collin county, where he is engaged in farming and the practice of his profession, that of dentistry.

Mr. Allison was once a Whig, and served through many terms in the Legislature of Tennessee, first in one house and then in the other ; was in this service most of the time from 1834 to 1850 ; was elected as one of the delegates to hold a secession convention in Tennessee, which did not assemble in consequence of Governor Harris and the Legislature, in case of great emergency, exercising the powers proposed to be delegated to a convention.

He enlisted for the Mexican war, and went through the campaigns in Mexico as Lieutenant Colonel of Thomas's Regiment, Taylor's

Brigade. When the war between the States commenced, he enlisted in the Confederate States Army ; was Colonel of the Twenty-Fourth Tennessee Infantry, and then of the Twenty-fourth Cavalry ; moved to Texas in 1866, and in 1873 was elected to the Texas Senate, Fourteenth Legislature ; served through two terms, and was next elected as a Democrat to his present membership in the Fifteenth Legislature, by a majority of 1017 votes. He is an earnest man in all things, and acts in accord with a strictly conscientious duty.